

Wildfire Protection Summary

•This plan was prepared by the Cross Hollow Wildfire Protection Committee consisting of residents Mark Foster, Allison Bulloch and Jay Peak.

•Since we live in a location where wildfires are a threat, the plan aims to list some things each homeowner can do to protect their property and the community.

• This plan is based upon NFPA/FirewiseUSA methodology with the goal to prepare homes to withstand embers and prevent flames or surface fire from igniting the home and its immediate surroundings, by working in an area known as the home ignition zone (HIZ). This is the home and everything around it within 100 feet.



Home Ignition Zone from wildfirerisk.org

Research Informaton

from wildfirerisk.org

 Homes lost to wildfire are most often ignited by embers or small, low-intensity fires. Ember ignition can occur when embers enter the building through vents or an open window. Once inside, embers can ignite furnishings or other combustible materials stored there. Ember ignition can also occur when embers accumulate and ignite combustible parts of the building, such as a wood shake roof, combustible decking, or debris accumulated on a roof or in a gutter. Vegetation or other nearby combustible materials can be ignited by embers, causing a spot fire and subjecting a portion of the siding, windows, or doors to fire.

Home Ignition Zones

• The **Immediate Zone** is located from the house to 5 feet from the home.

• The Intermediate Zone is located 5 – 30 feet from the home.

- The **Extended Zone** is located 30 100 feet from the home.
- For an overview of wildfire protection strategy, log onto the NFPA.org website, select Firewise USA and take the Community Wildfire Risk Assessment course. Widlfirerisk.org is another good source for information on wildfire protection.

Immediate Zone

From Firewise.org:

- The home and the area 0-5' from the furthest attached exterior point of the home; defined as a non-combustible area. Science tells us this is the most important zone to take immediate action on as it is the most vulnerable to embers. START WITH THE HOUSE ITSELF then move into the landscaping section of the Immediate Zone.
- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8 inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows. Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles anything that can burn. Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.

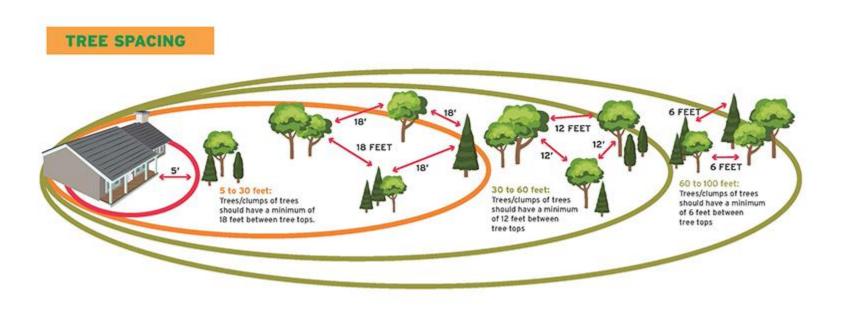
Intermediate Zone

From Firewise.org:

- 5-30' from the furthest exterior point of the home. Landscaping/hardscaping- employing careful landscaping or creating fuel breaks that can help influence and decrease fire behavior
- Create fuel breaks with driveways, walkways/paths, patios, and decks.
- Keep lawns and native grasses mowed to a height of four inches.
- Remove ladder fuels (vegetation under trees) so a surface fire cannot reach the crowns. Prune trees up to six to ten feet from the ground; for shorter trees do not exceed 1/3 of the overall tree height.
- Space trees to have a minimum of eighteen feet between crowns with the distance increasing with the percentage of slope.
- Tree placement should be planned to ensure the mature canopy is no closer than ten feet to the edge of the structure.
- Tree and shrubs in this zone should be limited to small clusters of a few each to break up the continuity of the vegetation across the landscape.

Suggested Tree Spacing

from NFPA.org



Extended Zone

- From Firewise.org:
- Extended Zone is generally considered to be 30 100 feet from the home for a flat lot.
- The goal here is not to eliminate fire but to interrupt fire's path and keep flames smaller and on the ground.
- Dispose of heavy accumulations of ground litter/debris. Remove dead plant and tree material.
- Remove small conifers growing between mature trees.
- Remove vegetation adjacent to storage sheds or other outbuildings within this area.
- Trees 30 to 60 feet from the home should have at least 12 feet between canopy tops.*
- Trees 60 to 100 feet from the home should have at least 6 feet between the canopy tops.*

*The distances listed for crown spacing are suggested based on NFPA 1144. However, the crown spacing needed to reduce/prevent crown fire potential could be significantly greater due to slope, the species of trees involved and other site specific conditions. Check with your local forestry professional to get advice on what is appropriate for your property.

Wildfire Protection Products

 Googling Wildfire Home Protection will bring up some sites, such as the examples below, who sell home protection products.

https://wildfirehomeprotection.net/products

https://www.vulcanvents.com/vents/

- Further information on Fire Prevention in Iron County is available at:
- https://www.ironcounty.net/government/departments/fire/about
- Or call:
- Ryan Riddle, Iron County Fire Warden at (435) 590-4714